SIX

LETTERS:

ADDRESSED

TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE

the COUNTESS of G——

DUBLIN:

PRINTED IN THE YEAR, M,DCC,LXXX.

and Yet Their so contemptible
fellow talks of Gallantry
& the Attachement of a Married
Woman to him (a Married Man)
to a Lady of Quality &

Oh The Imprudent
Ignorant
Conceited
detestable
Contemptible
Abominable
Shameless
Scoundrel

Besides his other lying vain pretences
He would have us understand that he

Anna. to Griffith

LETTER I.

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE *the* COUNTESS *of* G——.

MADAM,

FLY—change,—paſs—and begone! ——To be the 15th of laſt month happy with your Ladyſhip in the Country of K——y, the 19th in *my own houſe*, in the City of Cork, elegantly furniſhed with a genteel equipage and ſuit of ſervants, and the 10th of May, to be a friendleſs beggar!—— forlorn! and deſtitute! near three hundred miles from you at an Inn in B——t, ſtripped of every thing on earth,—my lands—houſes—effects—employment! all gone *in a twinkling*;—gracious Heaven! 'tis almoſt inſupportable; little did your Ladyſhip imagine that my firſt letter would be from *the bounderies of Scotland*; but, "*Our only leſſon is to learn to ſuffer*,——

"*And he who knows not that,—was born for nothing.*"

Perhaps every thing happens for the better (as Voltaire ſays) *in this beſt of all poſſible worlds*.

No pen could paint the diſtreſs I felt when Maria and I parted your Ladyſhip, and the dear *nymphs and nymphlings* of A——t, on the 15th of laſt month,—little did I then think how much more

miſerable I ſhould be that day month *than I was even then!*—but where am I running? I mean in this letter to give you a little account of the viciſſitudes I have ran through ſince I laſt ſaw you, and in ſome ſubſequent epiſtle I will let you know the ſource and cauſe of all my miſeries. On the 16th, my Daughter and I met Mrs. G—— and my Son at Mc——p, and on the 19th we drove to C—k, where moſt of my beſt furniture had come by ſhip from my country houſe at S——n. On the 21ſt, I took an elegant houſe in the North Abbey, ſent Maria and A—y to the beſt ſchools in C—k, and thought myſelf happy to be once more with my little family after a ſeparation of eight months; but ah! vain, idle thoughts! how ſoon can *the great Diſpoſer of all* things make us miſerable or bleſſed? I received a note from a particular friend the night of the 29th of April, which occaſioned a precipitate reſolution: for on the 30th (at four, in the morning,) attended by my own man, who put two ſhirts of mine, and two of his in his pockets, I ſallied out of C—k on foot, with juſt three guineas in my purſe,—I had ſuch fortitude, that I imagined I could have (with eaſe) walked to Dublin—When lo! before I had gone eight miles, I grew ſo weary that I could not ſtand, and was obliged to get into a little cabbin, where I had not waited long, before my ſervant heard the rattling of a chaiſe, and on my ſtopping it, found that it was (providentially for me) going to K——y with a ſingle Gentleman in it. I accordingly agreed for a ſeat for myſelf, and liberty for my ſervant on the box, and lay that night at B—ll—p—r—n, the next at C—ll—n, the 2d of May at K-lk—y, the 3d I got up in the ſtage to D-b—n, where I remained *incog.* till the 6th, when I got to C—le B-l-ngh-m, the 7th I lay in N—ry, and the 8th in B—f-ſt. I am now here

two

two days, and don't know a ſoul but the *Fille de Chambre*, my landlord, and *an old Scotch pedling woman*. The people here are *not ſo affable as* in Munſter, but I dare ſay more ſincere in their friendſhips *when they form any*.—The common people ſpeak broad Scotch, and the better ſort differ vaſtly from us, both in accent and language. Removing from one place to another—they call *flitting*, (and indeed Johnſon makes uſe of the ſame expreſſion); children—they call WEANS; Bog, here—is called MOSS; and *Moſs*—*Fog*.—They have indeed many peculiarities, but the men in general are well read, ſhrewd, and ſenſible. The better ſort of women are all dreſſy, neat, and pretty; but as for their converſation, I know nothing about that, having never heard one of them ſpeak. This town is the fifth *for ſize* in Ireland, very extenſive in trade, and the people in general induſtrious and rich. You will ſee no ragged wretches here, *as with you*,—no beggars of any kind. The pooreſt Peaſants here are tight, clean, and whole; and the common labourers are all paid a ſhilling a day, beſides food.——Would to Heaven their LORDSHIPS and SQUIRESHIPS of the reſt of the kingdom would adopt this *benevolent* mode, and pay their miſerable ſlaves a ſufficiency for their ſupport! And if not, may the Almighty inſpire the wretched ſufferers with reſolutions to emigrate, and fly from perſecution to the N——h, where they will have both food and raiment.

THERE is the fineſt Aſſembly-room here I ever ſaw, it is for the benefit of a Poor-houſe, which is a noble inſtitution. Here the infirm, the helpleſs and defenceleſs, young, and every object, may find a comfortable aſylum or ſanctuary. All manufactures are carried on very extenſively here; and I have ſeen one woman (with a ſpinning Jenny)

ſpin as many threads *at once* as ſeventy women could in any other part of Ireland; and a man card in the ſame proportion, by the aid of a machine. Indeed, nothing goes amiſs with theſe people, they have in the general made their fortunes by their honeſt induſtry; and at preſent, the meaneſt artiſans are ſo opulent as to keep country houſes, carriages, &c. &c. But gracious Powers! what an epiſtle have I written? Indeed my *Lady, I could talk to you for ever*, and yet at this ſeaſon, 'tis no great compliment;—for I have

" *Room for meditation, even to madneſs!*
" *'Till the mind burſts with thinking.*"——

There are none coming to ſee me, nor is there any likelyhood, until Mrs. G—— and my Children arrive; but in a deſart or in a palace, be aſſured, that I am (with compliments to my Lord and all the family)

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged,
obedient humble Servant,

B——t, *May* 10, 1780. G——.

LETTER II.

From the SAME *to the* SAME.

Infandum Regina Jubes renovare Dolorem.

WITH pleaſure, my dear Lady, I'll obey any of your commands. You mention your having read my memoirs in Sequins Magazine,—Alas! my Lady, they were but a few faint outlines which were ſketched out *e'er I had any adventures at all*, and publiſhed near eight years ago; however tho' I know the recital of my ſufferings will affect

you

your gentle, humane and ſentimental heart) I will give them to you ſo ſoon as I am ſettled, at preſent I muſt only tell you of *recent afflictions*.——Yeſterday Mrs. G——, my Children, and a ſervant-maid arrived; Mrs. G—— told me that ſhe had thrown up the leaſe of my houſes and lands at S——n (in which I had expended five hundred pounds) to the landlord; that ſhe had alſo done the ſame in Cork; that a chaiſe which coſt me ninety pounds, had been canted for three; my chaiſe-horſes, which coſt me fifty pounds the pair, for ſeven pounds; Maria's little horſe (which you have often admired) for two guineas; my own riding mare, and my ſervant's, for three pounds; converſation-chairs, &c &c. which coſt me twenty guineas the ſet, for two pounds; mahogany tables, worth five pounds a piece, for a few ſhillings each. In ſhort—that ſhe had received about fifty pounds for near one thouſand pounds worth of effects; that what ſhe did receive had been expended in the journey here; and that ſhe had not preſerved a pin's worth but our clothes, a few jewels, Maria's watch and her own, &c. &c.—And here I am in *Statuo Quo!*—Fallen from being a man of ſome note and conſequence; from being I——r G——l of M——r, with a fine ſalary and perquiſites, to the S—r——p of B——t, with a beggarly ſalary of —— a year. What mighty ills have not been done by woman?—Thus did Mark Anthony loſe the world!—I am now in a ſtrange country, many ſcore miles from any relation or friend on earth, without a guinea in the world, or a ſtool to ſit on; with a Wife and Daughter (uſed all their lives to gaity, dreſs and ſplendor) a Son, and three ſervants to maintain. May the Almighty give me patience, and prevent me from doing a deed, which, my dear Lady, I was too near perpetrating, and which, at preſent

my

my nature ſhrinks at the very idea of. And all this matter have I partly drawn on myſelf, through my friendſhip for two villains; one in particular (the nephew of a paltry Felt-maker) whom I took by the hand, preferr'd him, and placed him in rank next to myſelf; was all the time undermining me, and ſtriving to circumvent and ruin me, which at laſt, he (fatally *for me*) accompliſhed. The other, I ſaved from deſtruction, by warning him from ſome impending dangers; and in return, he communicated what I had written to him, and enclоſed my confidential letters to ——— ———, which was the only colour they had for reducing me.———

Lay not your young—Oh! Mothers to the breaſt,
"Leſt they ſhould turn to Serpents and deſtroy you."

In my next I'll give your Ladyſhip what you require, and am, with higheſt reſpect and eſteem (in all forms and modes of ſpeech)

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient,
and devoted humble Servant,

June 2, 1780. G———.

LETTER III.

From the SAME *to the* SAME.

I NEED not inform your Ladyſhip that my Mother was the Daughter of Captain P-tr-ck M-xw-ll, who (beſides his commiſſion in the army) had a real eſtate of ſix thouſand pounds a year. You have alſo heard, that after my Grandfather's death, my Grandmother made a ſecond choice, which, and her cruel treatment and ſeverity cauſed both her Daughters (her only Children) to make matches

matches for themſelves. My Aunt married an Attorney, and my Mother, Mr. G——, then only an Exciſe-officer, though nearly allied to all the Ag—rs W-m-ſ's and W-lſh's of the County of Kilkenny. My Grandmother (i. e. by my Mother) whoſe maiden name was Tr-tt-r, was nearly related to the preſent Earl of W-nd-sf-rd, Sir James Lowther of Wh-t-h-v-n, Mr. B-ſh- of K-llf-ne, J-ſ-ph D—ne, and ſeveral very top families both in England and Ireland:—But what avail'd her conſequence or connexions? Would that I had been the Grandſon of a wealthy Brogue-maker. My Step-Grandfather L——n B——l, (who was alſo an Attorney) did not live long enough to ſquander away the entire eſtate,—tho' the moſt part of it, by which means (on my Grandmother's deceaſe) my Mother and Aunt (who had buried her Huſband and had no Children) came jointly into the poſſeſſion of about four hundred a year, together with a great quantity of plate, jewels, furniture, &c. &c. ſo that my Father (by his Revenue employment of Surveyor) and my Mother's devidend of the eſtate, had about *three hundred a year*, excluſive of the Earl of W-nd-s-f-rd's bond for a thouſand pounds, which my Grandfather had lent his Father the late Lord C-ſtl-b-m-r, when he was plain Lieutenant W-nd-s-f-rd, and a dependant *in my family*; however his Lordſhip has not only cancell'd all obligations of that ſort, but even thinks himſelf under no obligation to diſcharge the amount of his Father's bond, which has been many years out of date; ſo far, my Lady, for my Father and Mother, and now, *for my unfortunate ſelf*:—I was born at Roſcrea in the County of Tipperary, about four-and-thirty years ago; was educated at Tralee in the County of Kerry, under the noted Andrew Young, with whom I boarded until I was fourteen years old,

old, when I entered the College of Dublin, and was rusticated *in my junior sophisterſhip*; on which I had myſelf entered in the Middle Temple, remained in London but ſix months on account of the ſcantineſs of my allowance, which would not ſupport me in the line of a Gentleman. On my return to Dublin, I commenced author, and publiſhed my Juvenile Poems by ſubſcription, with the amount of which, and the profits of a Comedy, I was enabled to purchaſe an Enſigncy in the Queen's Royal Regiment of foot, which, my dear Lady, I was obliged to diſpoſe of to pay my debts before I was ſeventeen years old; for to my ſhame be it ſaid, I plunged into every extravagance and exceſs:—Took into keeping the celebrated Mrs. M——n, and indulged myſelf in every kind of riot and debauchery; thinking, that from the ſucceſs of my Juvenile Poems and the Comedy of the Sw-dl-r (both of which I had written and publiſhed before I was ſixteen) I could at any time I thought proper accumulate hundreds, after ſelling my Enſigncy, and paying my debets. My Couſin B-ſhe got me into the Exciſe, *(curſed be the day and hour I ever accepted of a Commiſſion in the Revenue)* and had me appointed Supernumerary Gauger in Wexford, where I immediately married a Miſs R——d, the Niece of B——k R——d, Eſq; Mayor of the Town, and with her fortune commenced Shopkeeper, failed within the year, and critically was removed from that juſt as I had cloſed, on account of my fighting and wounding a ſuperior Officer. Mrs. G——, my Daughter Maria (who was about two months old) your humble ſervant, and Maria's nurſe, (all our ages together amounting only to thirty-four years) quit Wexford in the latter end of the year 1765, and removed to ſweet Tralee, the place of my education, having lived there from the age of ſix months, until I

entered Trinity College; and there, the *dear*, the friendly Inhabitants, treated my Wife and me with every civility, each vieing (from the higheſt to the loweſt) with the other, in paying us every compliment. May every peace and happineſs attend them and their's, and may the Almighty ſhower down his choiceſt bleſſings upon them; I would aſſiſt a dog from that County, and hug him to my boſom; and (would my ſtars allow it) I would rather live in Tralee on fifty pounds a year, than here, or almoſt any where elſe upon five hundred; but to my ſtory:——In September 1766, I was removed to Fethard in the County of Tipperary, where I remained a Gauger for ſix years, and lived comfortably, as my Father then (my dear Mother being alive) allowed me about forty pounds a year, I alſo cleared about forty more, by practiſing as an Attorney in the Petty Courts about the place. My employment brought me in about ſixty, (as I was very active my in duty) and made thirty or forty pounds a year more by *ſcribbling*, and different little publications, ſo that I could live at the rate of about two hundred a year, which, in ſo cheap a place as Fethard, anſwered tolerably well. In March 1772, I was appointed merely from my own merit (by Sir W-ll—m Oſb-rne) to the Examinators Office; when for a temporary ſupport *(my Father having refuſed to keep my Wife and Children)* I publiſhed, and became ſole Editor of the New Freeman's Journal, or Public Monitor; containing the exhibition of *the Stephen Green's Review*, which made ſuch a racket in the Kingdom, and on pretence of which the Houſes of Lords and Commons brought in the Stamp Act. I now grew very popular, indeed more ſo than any man in my ſtation in the world; but *a propos*, I was ſo eaſy in the relation of my tranſactions in Fethard, that I had like to forget informing

informing your Ladyſhip that while I was there (on the death of that ever honoured patriot Doctor Lucas) I ſet up for the City of Dublin, and canvaſſed for the election; but I need not inform you that I loſt it—and reſigned in favour of Doctor Clement;———but to return to *the Exhibition of Stephen's Green*:—I had the eyes of every individual upon me. If I went to a Playhouſe, I was clapped by one party, and hiſſed by the other, For excluſive of the Review of Characters, I was the author of all the letters dated from Barataria againſt Government; of Sancho's Government in Baratarria; of all the letters addreſſed to the K——; to Lord Townſend, and to the Earl of Harcourt; as well as all the letters ſigned *G——, A—— G———, Cenſor, Nicholemus, Van Trump, Epaphroditus, Dodderidge, Commiſſeration, a Ferrit, an Engliſhman, a Country Gentleman, Ignatious, Andrew Marvell junior, Q. in the Corner, Scourge, Balliſarius, Tantrobobus*, and a thouſand other ſignatures, which, my Lady, you muſt have yourſelf often ſeen; in ſhort, I became ſo formidable as to be offered high bribes by the C—— ſycophants; threatened to be ſent to Newgate; abuſed in the Old Freeman's Journal, Dublin Mercury, and Hibernian Journal, which were daily filled with letters againſt me, written by *Sylla*; *the Cobler of Copper Alley*; *Jeffery Wagſtaff*; *Ventidius*, and all the hirelings about the City. Different actions were taken out againſt me; my Printer obliged to abſcond; rewards offered by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Dublin, to any perſon who ſhould diſcover and proſecute to conviction the author, or authors, of any of the letters or characters publiſhed in the Dublin Monitor. But, my Lady, (not to tire your patience) I was at laſt prevailed upon by the late Sir R-b-rt W——r to leave Dublin, and to accept

cept of the employments of S-rv-y-r of B-lt-m-re, and Inſpector of K-nſ-le, with a ſtanding ſalary of one hundred pounds a year, and my travelling expences to be borne from Dublin to Sk—bb—n, where I arrived the 2d of February 1773. And ſo precipitately advanced the Exciſe and Licences in the two diſtricts, as to immediately attract the attention of Government, who ſeemed highly pleaſed, and were continually returning me thanks. I raiſed the Exciſe and Licences of the two diſtricts near a thouſand pounds a year; ſunk the Exciſe eſtabliſhments *one hundred and ſeventy-five pounds a year*, which is a ſaving of ſo much for ever to the Crown; laid down the plan of all theſe new laws and regulations now in force; diſcovered every fraud committed, not only by the Brewers, Diſtillers, Tobacconiſts, &c. &c. but alſo by the Surveyors and Gaugers, and at laſt rendered myſelf ſo very ſerviceable to Government, that they appointed me Inſp—or G——l of all Munſter, a Sub-Commiſſioner of every diſtrict in it, with an additional ſalary, and all my travelling expences to be borne; they alſo (at my own deſire) appointed one S——m to do the duty of S-rv--or of Baltimore, and excuſed me from writing diaries, or doing any S-rv--or's drudgery whatſoever; then was I advanced to the higheſt ſtation in the Exciſe, and had ſo fully the ear of the ————, that I could do as I thought proper, and muſt ſay for myſelf, that I made no improper uſe of my power. I now took delight in advancing the Revenue; I made detections and ſeizures every where I went, and diſcovered the moſt capital frauds. In one walk I have found the Gauger fecreting all the licences, and appropriating two or three hundred a year of the King's caſh to his own uſe; in another diſtrict, the Surveyor at the ſame work; In ſome walks the Surveyor, Gaugers and Diſtillers all in combination. I have

detected P—r H———, a C-ll-ct-r, in making uſe of two information books; one for Dublin Cuſtom-houſe, in which he could enter any fines or ſeizures he thought proper to return; and the other for the ſpeculation of himſelf and his infamous Clerk; in ſhort the amount of my fines and ſeizures in one circuit through the Province, and had they been properly levied and ſold (after all reductions had been made by the ———) would have been upwards *of five thouſand pounds*. But, my Lady, I was robbed, and groſly abuſed by ſeveral of the Exciſe Officers of the Province; from ſome of the C-ll-ct-rs to the Supernumerary Gaugers! who dreaded the inſpection of an honeſt upright Officer. But the greateſt villains I ever met with were the C-ll-ct-rs of Y———ll and L———k; and as I am treating of C-ll-ct-rs, I muſt in juſtice exempt ſome, for too much honour can never be paid to the then C-ll-ct-rs of Cl-nm-ll, W-t-rf-rd, K-nſ-le, C-rk, K-rry, M—w, and L——e; but I fear I have made this epiſtle too tedious, and that your Ladyſhip (before you read the half of it) will be inclined to commit it to the flames; *bon nuit*—'tis now twelve o'clock. Adieu, my ſweet Lady, and enjoy a *bon repos*.

June 6, 1780, G——.

LETTER IV.

From the SAME *to the* SAME.

IN ſhort, my Lady, I ran every riſque in fulfilling the truſt which was repoſed in me. I have been fir'd at; my hat ſhot off my head, which

was

was (you'll ſay) "*an hair-breadth'd 'ſcape*;" challanged, waylaid, fought, attempted to be poiſoned, but nothing ever deterred me from going on in the ſame track, nor could all the wealth of Atalas corrupt me; I have refuſed bags of money with juſt contempt, and made the moſt impartial and faithful reports without ſhewing favour or affection; I "*never extenuated, or ſet down ought in malice.*" And what were my wages for all my labours?—For my ſeventeen years faithful ſervices?—"*Hear Oh! Heaven and earth!*"—'My wages were diſgrace, ruin, baniſhment, and reduction. But to my ſtory:—In the town of Sk——n lived an elegant woman a Mrs. A——, "*Fair as the morn—as new blown roſes ſweet.*" This angelic creature had been ſeparated from her Huſband *(a Sir John Brute of a fellow)* for near a year; in ſhort ſhe could not brook his ill treatment, and he was compelled (by law) to allow her the intereſt of her fortune, which was ſixty pounds a year; with her I became too intimate, the conſequence of which was her pregnancy, on which I was obliged to bring her with me to Tralee, *Etre accoucher*, where I remained in the year 1777, ſix months, ſitting in judgment on the trial of the Chr-ſt-na, which we condemned in Kerry, but ſhe was afterwards acquitted by a majority of the Commiſſioners of Appeals; how that happened I can't take upon me to account, but I know my judgment was right, and according to law and juſtice. But to proceed: my connections with Mrs. A—— began the 16th of March 1777, and fatally, as you ſhall hear, continued until July 1779; when I received a letter from the B——, commanding me to repair to Tr-lee, and remain there, reclaiming the diſtrict until further orders. And there I was left, parted from Mrs. G—— and my family (all to my Daughter who was with your Ladyſhip) until laſt

April. Mrs. G——, my Son, and ſervants at S———n; and my Daughter, myſelf, ſervant and horſes at Tralee; my chaiſe-horſes and ſervant at a public Inn, at 4s. 11dh. expence each day; all which your Ladyſhip knows as well as I can tell you, for often and often has your ſweet ſentimental ſoul felt for my ſufferings. About the beginning of laſt April, I received a letter from the B——, importing, that I muſt look upon myſelf no longer to be In-p-ct-r G-n-r-l; that I was reduced to be a S-rv-y-r, and removed to C—k; for that they could not think of diſturbing Mr. S———n, (the very villain whom I had placed there myſelf) as they had received his memorial, ſetting forth, that he had advanced the S-rv-y of B-lt-m-re, and would engage to do ſo continually, provided he was continued and not removed.—— Here was gratitude, my Lady: a wretch whom I could have diſmiſſed a thouſand times for idleneſs and mal-practices. I then remonſtrated loudly againſt this order, and prayed to be informed of my offence—or crime; and by return of poſt *another piece of treachery and ingratitude* opened fully in my view. I was informed, that the only offence I had ever committed was warning Mr. M——, S——r of C———ll, to take care of his conduct, as the B——d had every bad opinion of him; and that I had particularly mentioned in a friendly letter to him, that one of the B——d had heard that he *was a great tyrant, and connected improperly*; which letter the monſter incloſed to the C———rs, who made that the pretext for ruining me, by not only reducing me, but removing me from my houſe and land, in which I had expended upwards of five hundred pounds, in order to make myſelf a freeholder, and be able to give one of the ——— a vote at the next election. Your Ladyſhip knows my ſituation at parting

parting you on the 15th of April in order to ſettle in C—k, where they had removed me, and where I meant (you know) eſtabliſhing a news-paper, to be called *The Volunteer Chronicle, or Paddy's Journal*; for which I had near five hundred ſubſcribers in the Counties of Cork and Kerry, at a guinea each, and had a partner and all ready the inſtant I arrived in C—k, ſo that I might have parted with my I—— n very quietly; but as if fate had fortuned my downfall in every reſpect: I on the 29th of April (as I mentioned to your Ladyſhip in my firſt letter) received a note from a friend, warning me of an impending danger, as Mr. A——— had marked a writ againſt me *for five thouſand pounds*, and meant carrying on a ſuit againſt me for Criminal Converſation with his Wife; and the ſame day having received the offer of B—— t S-rv-y from the B——d, I thought no time ſhould be loſt, and leaving my horſes and every thing behind me (to prevent an alarm) walked out of C—k as related in my letter of the 10th of May. I muſt alſo inform your Ladyſhip, that *Dennis Hurley* (the ſervant who had lived with me for ſeven years, and whom I turned off at Tralee for overturning my chaiſe, and breaking it, by which Maria narrowly eſcaped with life) had turned informer, was retained by Mr A———, and was ready to prove my connection with Mrs. A———; ſo that I ſhould not only have been confined for life, but Mrs. A——— would have *loſt her allimoney*, which he now can't avoid allowing her, as neither adultery or elopement have been proved againſt her in any Eccleſiaſtic or other Court. And now permit me to aſſure you, that the only happy days of my life were the few months that I ſpent with your angelic ſelf, your Earl, and the

dear

dear family of A——t; and that I am (with compliments to all the family)

Your Ladyſhip's moſt devoted,
and faithful humble Servant,

June 10, 1780. G——.

LETTER V.

From the SAME *to the* SAME.

"*Weak, giddy, helpleſs,—left alone,*
"*To all my friends a burthen grown.*"

UNHAPPY! wretched G——; and has the Counteſs of G——— alſo forgotten you? Not a ſyllable from your amiable ſelf ſince my laſt letter of the 10th of June. Oh! my Lady, had you known our wretched ſituation, you would certainly afford us the comfort of your correſpondence. Every creature has forgotten us; many whom I have given bread to, and who are now much happier than I am, diſdain even anſwering my letters.———

"*When fortune is ſmilling, what crouds will appear,*
"*To offer their kindneſs and friendſhip ſincere;*
"*When change but the proſpect, and point out diſtreſs,*
"*No longer to court you, they'll eagerly preſs.*"

I AM

I AM now with my family pent up in a little cabbin in the ſuburbs of B——t; I have a *wee* parlour and dinning-room, not larger than a ſmall cloſet; three Lilliputian lodging-rooms; a couple of garrets, a kitchen, a cellar, ſtable, garden, &c. &c. for which I pay eleven pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence a year. But what occaſion have I for ſtabling? *Sans cheval—ſans argent—ſans every thing.* I have alſo little need of a roomy houſe, for not an individual (ſave three families in the place) has paid Mrs. G—— the ſmalleſt compliment, nor does ſhe know a ſoul in the town but the family of a Brother S-rv-y-r, and the families of two C—m-n Br——r's who paid their compliments on her firſt coming. We have been at a ball given by the B——t M-ll-rs, where every thing was conducted with the greateſt regularity and decorum. We have alſo been at one aſſembly, but ſuch a conducted one—*ah! mon Dieu!*—My dear Lady, after paying thirteen ſhillings for the admiſſion of my family, not a creature in the room ſpoke to one of us; neither Mrs. G—— or Maria were aſked to dance, drink tea, play cards, or were paid the ſlighteſt courteſie or civility; but I need not dwell on that ſubject, as your Ladyſhip, *ſans doubte*, has read the publications on the very ſubject in the Evening Poſt, ſigned *Belliſarius*, *Scourge*, and *Tantrobobus*. Strange, that a town ſo remarkable for patriotiſm, *public ſpirit* and *independence*, ſhould uſe the family of a poor old weather-beaten Volunteer after this ungracious faſhion; but I do not blame the *better ſort of the town*, who are ſcandalized at the behaviour of thoſe who uſually frequent the aſſembly, (which was inſtituted for a moſt benevolent purpoſe) and have diſcontinued going there themſelves on account of the rude behaviour of a certain ſet who are not worth animadverting upon. But *a propos*, my Lady,

Lady, in your laſt you requeſted I would inform you what firſt gave riſe to the ſpirit of volunteering in Ireland:—

In the year 1774, we formed ourſelves into a *Conſtitutional Society*, called the *Conſtitutional Society* of Eaſt and Weſt Carberry, Bere and Bantry (of which I was a principal promoter) with an intent to Preſerve the internal peace of the country, and bring delinquents to puniſhment. Theſe aſſociations ſpread all over the County of Cork, and were of the moſt eſſential ſervice. However, in the latter end of the year 1777 great mobs had aroſe in ſeveral of the maritime towns in that County, particularly in the City of Cork, the towns of Skibbereen, Roſs, &c. &c. with an intent to ſtop the exportation of proviſions; and theſe diſturbances roſe to ſuch a height, that they pulled down ſeveral houſes in the City of Cork, killed ſeveral people, and committed vaſt depredations. What could be done? *We had no military then in the Kingdom!* at laſt an expedient was thought of by the young Gentlemen who now compoſe the *Union of Cork*, who cloathed, armed, and arrayed themſelves in December 1777; and before the 1ſt of February 1778, the *True Blues*, the *Aughrim*, the *Boyne*, and the *Blackpool Aſſociations* had formed. I was in Cork at the commencement of theſe affairs; and by the 2d of March 1778 had raiſed the Carberry Independant Company at S——n (of which I was an Officer); from whence I travelled through Munſter in my regimentals, and diffuſed the ſpirit where ever I went. Immediately every little Village in the extenſive County of Cork had an aſſociation, from thence the furor raged through the Counties of Kerry, Limerick, Waterford, Clare, (and laſtly in that Province) through the County of Tipperary. However (by every thing I can learn) the Volunteers of B——t were in arms immediately

ly after thoſe of the City of Cork and Skibbereen, as I find that they had aſſociated themſelves very early in March; and to do them juſtice, their batallion is the fineſt I ever ſaw, *Grenadiers*, *Light Infantry*, Batallion, Artillery, and a noble Band of Muſic, all compoſed of young Gentlemen, who had themſelves inſtructed for the purpoſe; and really the Review here laſt July (of which I gave your Ladyſhip a particular account) beat even human comprehenſion. Incloſed are the Volunteer Songs which I promiſed your Ladyſhip, with my Farewell to Munſter. And am (with love and compliments to all your houſe)

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged,

obedient humble Servant,

Sept. 10, 1780. G——.

LETTER VI.

From the SAME *to the* SAME.

MADAM,

IN my laſt I incloſed you the VOLUNTEER SONGS and the *Farewell* to MUNSTER, which I hope you have received. The firſt ſong has been republiſhed here much mutilated; it met with a kind benefactor, who adorned it, adopted it, and ſent it into the world in a much better dreſs than I could have done in my preſent ſtate, which is bad enough, my Lady; for as poor Yorick ſaid

to

to his dear Eugenius, "*You could not hear me now ſpeak acroſs the table.*" I am quite hoarſe, and have been ſo ſince the TRALEE FANCY-BALL, where, you know, I appeared in three different characters; which, with ſitting up late the ſame night after ſupper, and afterwards driving to your Ladyſhip's in an open Phaeton, under heavy rain, gave me ſo bad a cold, that I dread it has fallen on my lungs,—the Almighty's will be done. Like Sterne, I would fly death if I could, and drive down from the northern breezes to your Ladyſhip; but like the *fallen of old*, that Paradiſe is denied me. Yes, my Lady, every happineſs has fled the unfortunate G——, nor have I even any proſpect to look forward to. Hope (the kind ſolace of the common wretched) is even denied me. Since I lapſed from honor, and that only in one inſtance of my life, I have never known a moment's peace, or eaſe of mind. I carry the ſting about me, which, I am ſure, *is Hell enough* in all conſcience. Oh! innocence, how ſweet are all thy ways—and every thing (when thou art gone) is noxious. *I fear 'tis dooms day with me!*—Oh! Lady G——, not long ſince I was the promoter of every mirth—of every gaity—at every club—every lodge—every knot—every ball—aſſembly—drum—jubilee—fancied ball—fandango;—at every thing I was foremoſt, and now, am *I ſunk beneath my ſphere.* I am wretched indeed!—Oh! my Wife and Children,—had they an independence, I ſhould be happy; and what now gives me uneaſineſs (the thoughts of a ſpeedy diſſolution) would then be a balm to my afflicted ſoul. May furies haunt that villain S—tn—m. Had I not gone to reſide in Cork Mr. A—— would never have brought his action againſt me; but why do I repine thus? Fie! 'tis unmanly.

"*Great*

" *Great Alexander, 'midſt his conqueſts mourn'd,*
" *Heroes and Demi Gods have known their ſorrows;*
" *Cæſars have wept,—and I have had my—fall.*"

Avaunt, then ſell deſpair! Maria is but *la, la*, the poor Child can hardly ſupport the change,—from being carreſſed by every creature, having ſervants, carriages and horſes always at command; to be at once ſo levelled, and tranſported into a country where ſhe knows not a ſoul, nor never is likely, as (to quote again poor Yorick) *all the men and women ſhe meets here wear ſpectacles.* They have uſed us indeed worſe than Germans, and have ſhut the door of converſation in our faces. This inſtant, I have received a letter from Mrs. Y——, excuſing your Ladyſhip for not writing for ſome time paſt; and importing, that you were juſt ſetting off (you and the whole family) for Dublin; and that I ſhall addreſs my next letter to you at Stephen's Green. May all happineſs attend you there and every where elſe, is my fervent prayer; and

Whatever be my lot—may Heaven defend,
And guard from danger my angelic friend.

Oh! my Lady, how they have refined upon calamity!—had I been reduced or diſmiſſed at once, it had been mercy; but to be ſacrificed by degrees, firſt ſent from my family and left in ſuſpence for near nine months, and then reduced, and turned adrift *for no one crime on earth*; for it can't be controverted but that I have been truly honeſt and active, and that *I have done the ſtate ſome ſervice*—and they know it. I hope, however, my caſe (which bears an exact ſimilitude to that of Belliſarius's) will be a warning to all others in my late ſtation; not to exert themſelves too much, or

make

make enemies in a cauſe where they can expect in the end nothing but diſgrace, and an ungrateful return for all paſt ſervices. I beg, my Lady, you will make my compliments acceptable to my Lord. I have a forboding that I ſhall not write you many letters, I am really very weak; but in ſickneſs or in health, in adverſity or proſperity, be aſſured, I ever will be your Ladyſhip's

Moſt obliged,

obedient humble Servant,

October 12, 1780. G——.

FINIS.